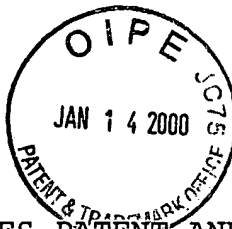


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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
HIROYUKI INOUE, et al.) Examiner: C. Hallacher
Application No.: 08/796,519) Group Art Unit: 2853
Filed: February 7, 1997)
For: INK CONTAINER FOR INK)
JET PRINTING, HOLDER FOR)
THE CONTAINER, CARRIAGE)
FOR THE HOLDER AND) January 13, 2000
INK JET PRINTER)

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants respectfully direct the Examiner's attention to the documents listed below and on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. A copy of each document so listed is enclosed.

U.S. Patent 4,907,018
Europe 622,208

These documents were cited during prosecution of two Singapore patent applications corresponding to the above U.S. application. Copies of both Singapore Search Reports (apparently performed on behalf of Singapore by the Austrian Patent Office), which are dated November 19, 1999 and December 9, 1999, are enclosed. In view of these dates, it is hereby certified under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) that each document in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a

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counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Statement.

Other documents cited in the Search Report have been cited in the Information Disclosure Statements dated February 6, 1997 and June 16, 1997.

The concise explanation of relevance for the documents cited above is provided in the Search Reports.

The Examiner is urged to study this information in its entirety and to form an independent determination of the materiality of the information to the claimed invention. Additionally, the Examiner is requested to indicate that this information has been considered by initialling the appropriate portion of Form PTO-1449.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our California office by telephone at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,


Attorney for Applicants

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